

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 10, after line 26, insert the following:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 represents the ^{13}C -nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of sodium polymannuronate; and

Figure 2 represents the ^{13}C -nuclear resonance spectrum of sodium alginate.

Page 14, lines 28 and 29, delete as follows:

~~The ^{13}C -nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of sodium polymannuronate is presented in Figure 1.~~

Page 18, lines 25 and 26, delete as follows:

~~The ^{13}C -nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of sodium alginate is presented in Figure 2.~~